Private Sector participation in oil exploration

5078. MISS MABEL REBELLO: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that inspite of NELP in round 1 and round 2 Government are not able to attract major companies to invest in exploration of petro products in the country despite global tenders;

(b) if so, the quantum of additional crude oil found as a result of participation of foreign companies in oil exploration;

(c) the amount of money the private Indian and foreign companies together have invested in oil exploration so far; and

(d) what are their total returns so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI SANTOSH GANGWAR): (a) and (b) No, Sir. Under New Exploration Licensing Policy (NELP), contracts have been signed with the oil companies based in Canada, Russia, U.K. and USA either Singly or in Joint Ventures. Out of these, two oil discoveries have already been made from one of the blocks.

(c) and (d) The total investment made by the private companies including foreign companies in first two rounds of NELP is approximately Rupees 19.52 Crores as on 31st March 2001. The exploration by these private companies under NELP has not reached the production stage and hence the return to these companies cannot be assessed.

Usage of Renewable Energy Sources by ONGC

5079. SHRI BHAGATRAM MANHAR: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) what kind of Solar Photovoltaic Systems and Renewable Energy Sources are being used by ONGC at their off-shore platforms in Mumbai;

(b) since when these systems are being used to supply electricity to the platforms of ONGC;

(c) the criteria being adopted so far in choosing such systems and what has been the mode of purchase of these systems with the names of the foreign/ domestic companies; and

(d) the total cost of such systems supplied to ONGC during the last two years with the names of suppliers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI SANTOSH GANGWAR): (a) Battery back up type Solar Photovoltaic Systems are installed on western off-shore well platforms of Oil and Natural Gas Corporation Ltd. (ONGC).

(b) These systems are being used since 1976-77 onwards.

(c) The details regarding criteria for choosing such systems and mode of purchase alongwith names of suggested foreign and domestic companies are given in the Statement (*See* below).

(d) The cost of individual item/system is not indicated in turnkey contract. In the last two years only 2 well platforms, ZA and HV, have been installed and on both these platforms Solar Photovaltaic System was installed by M/s Tata BP Solar, India.

Statement

Details regarding criteria for choosing battery backup type Solar Photovoltaic systems and mode of purchase

1. Solar Photovoltaic Systems in the range of 350 W with battery back up type are installed on ONGC Western Off-shore well platforms at the construction stage for supplying electric power for telemetry, gas detection system, Navigational Aids and Lighting Application.

2. In off-shore works turnkey contracts, ONGC is not directly procuring solar photovoltaic system, since the contracts are awarded on ICB tenders/on nomination basis and on lump-sum turnkey basis. The successful bidder chooses the vendor for solar photovoltaic system from ONGC suggested vendor-list provided in the bid package. Suggested Vendor-list is prepared by ONGC/Technical consultant (EIL/in house consultant) taking into consideration the track record and performance etc. If the contractor has to select a vendor other than ONGC approved vendor, he is required to submit pre-qualification documents of the proposed vendor with details of product specifications, vendor capabilities and off-shore track record etc. The pre-qualification documents are reviewed by ONGC/ Technical consultant (EIL/in house consultant) for acceptance or rejection.

3. The following broad criteria are being followed for preparing the Vendor's list:—

   (i) Suppliers/vendors must have supplied similar systems for use in the off-shore oil industry.

(ii) The proposed system shall have been in continuous satisfactory service on offshore for a minimum period of 2 years.

(iii) They should carry current certification by approved agencies for their equipment.

(iv) The equipment shall have been type tested by a certifying agency.

4. The suggested vendor list for Solar Photovoltaic Systems is as under:—

(i) Tata BP Solar, India

(ii) BHEL, India

(iii) Tideland, USA

(iv) API, USA

(v) Central Electronics Ltd., India.

Allotment of kerosene to U.P.

5080. SHRI HARENDRA SINGH MALIK: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether kerosene is likely to be allotted to Uttar Pradesh and Haryana in proportion to the national average;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the quota of kerosene is proposed to be increased in view of the increasing population and the dependence of the rural people on kerosene;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI SANTOSH GANGWAR): (a) to (e) The Government has allocated 12,61,121 MT and 1,55,928 MT of kerosene under Public Distribution System for the year 2001-2002 to the States of Uttar Pradesh and Haryana, respectively. Allocation to various States/Union Territories for the year 2002-2003 has been made on historical basis keeping in view the additional LPG connections given to the States/Union Territories. State Governments are expected to rationalise the distribution of kerosene to the ration card holders and review allocation to persons having LPG connections. The Governments should accord priority to the requirements of the needy persons including rural people.